

Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 JUN 2001

09/806039

PATENT

Practitioner's Docket No.: 939\_019

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

09/806,039

U.S. APPLICATION NO.

PCT/JP00/04416

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

3 July 2000

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

27 July 1999

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

TITLE OF INVENTION

DROPLET SPRAYING DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE  
SPRAYING DEVICE

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/US

Yukihisa TAKEUCHI and Toshikazu HIROTA

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: DO/US

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to the Box PCT, Attention: DO/US, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on June 28, 2001 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL803164504US.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicant wishes to amend the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace page 1, line 13 to page 2, line 9, with the following:

Description of the Prior Art

A conventional liquid-drop spraying device is a liquid-drop spraying device performing spraying by discharging a liquid-drop from discharging outlet due to the volume changes of a plurality of pressure rooms, which are connected to the common pass via inlets provided in these respective pressure rooms, piezo-electric / electrostrictive element is formed on one portion of wall in every pressure room and the relevant element is changed in shape by voltage signal applied to the relevant element. Then, in the case where a large amount of a liquid is discharged by use of a raw material fuel discharging device, a large number of discharging unit providing one piezo-electric / electrostrictive element in one pressure room have been placed on a liquid-drop spraying device or discharging period has been made shorter. In such a liquid-drop spraying device, for example, as a fuel ejecting device densely arraying a large number of